

WEST LAFAYETTE POLICE MERIT COMMISSION MINUTES  
February 13, 2012

The West Lafayette Police Merit Commission met in regular session in the Lower Level Conference Room of City Hall on February 13, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

Commission President Corrigan called the meeting to order and presided.

PRESENT: Commissioners Corrigan, Troyer, No, Kirkpatrick, and Shafer.

ALSO PRESENT: Commission Attorney Brooks, Mayor Dennis, Police Chief Dombkowski, Deputy Chief Leroux, and Lieutenant Watson.

**SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Mayor Dennis was present for the swearing in of Commissioners Shafer, Kirkpatrick and Troyer.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Kirkpatrick asked for approval of the minutes of the January 9, 2012 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troyer. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote. Commissioner Kirkpatrick asked for approval of the minutes of the February 3, 2012 executive session meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shafer. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Kirkpatrick asked for approval of Sgt. John Watson to be promoted to Lieutenant, Commissioner Troyer seconded that motion and the motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick asked for approval of Lieutenant Gary Sparger to be promoted to Captain. Commissioner Shafer seconded that motion and the motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Chief Dombkowski announced the promotion ceremony which was held in the Council Chambers after The Board of Works meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Chief Dombkowski also announced that this was the first promotion of Captain in the West Lafayette Police Department since 1998.

Chief Dombkowski announced the Officer of the Year. Police Officer Jonathan Travis Morgan was named Officer of the Year.

President Corrigan inquired as to the disciplinary action of Captain Francis. Chief Dombkowski responded by reporting that Captain Francis received a disciplinary letter and requested no hearing in response to the disciplinary action.

#### Update of Promotion Process:

President Corrigan reminded the Commissioners about the interviews for Police Officer on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 6:45 pm for the remaining six people involved in the selection process.

Deputy Chief Leroux distributed evaluation packets to the Commissioners for the process of finding a candidate for Sergeant.

#### Chief's Report:

Police Chief Dombkowski announced the resignation of Patrol Officer Dan Griffin. Officer Griffin will be moving out of state to pursue a new career.

The department's annual report is available on line. Last year the police department surpassed 20,000 calls for service as an agency for the first time.

We have recently instituted "the lockout program" which assists motorists who have locked their keys in their cars. The lockout program has been received favorably by citizens.

The police department canine officers assisted at the Beacon Academy in January to check for contraband per the request of the Beacon Academy. No contraband was found. Commissioner Troyer asked for us to give Cumberland School a "heads up" the next time that we assist the Beacon Academy, due to the fact that it could alarm Cumberland School officials and students. Police Chief Dombkowski agreed with Commissioner Troyer and will do so the next time.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick had a question in regard to a double yellow line onto Summit from Lindberg for Deputy Chief Leroux.

Chief Dombkowski explained Lt. Watson's new position. Lt. Watson is now the Lieutenant on the night shift.

#### New Hiring Process Update:

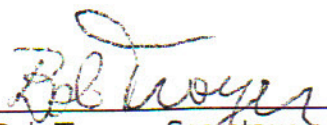
Deputy Chief Leroux announced that Lt. Watson had an item of business for the Merit Commissioners. Lt. Watson announced that they had wrapped up their part of the background investigations including the officer interviews for the current hiring process. He is passing on to the Commissioners the background packets including the agility test score sheets and also pictures of the applicants. The police panel, that does the interviews, completed the paperwork on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, which enables



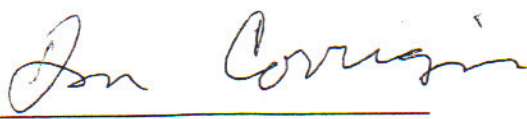
the Merit Commission to complete the hiring process per Deputy Chief Leroux. The Merit Board interview dates will be set at the next meeting.

Deputy Chief Leroux had an item of business. Deputy Chief Leroux distributed the Rules and Regulations, Section III, Rules of Conduct, Article 3, Number 38 having to do with telephone service. The current rules and regulations indicate that members must have a land line at their residency. With new technology, members of the agency would like the Commissioners to consider changing that and removing the land line portion of that rule of conduct. Attorney Brooks stated that it would take two meetings to get that accomplished. He stated that he would have to write it and then publish it in the newspaper and then vote on it before it could be changed. It will be discussed at the April meeting.

Commissioner Troyer moved that the meeting be adjourned and Commissioner Kirkpatrick seconded it. It was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

  
Bob Troyer, Secretary

Attest:

  
Don Corrigan, President